Hartford Weekly Herald.

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BRITISH HISTORY WRONG.

A Misleading Account of the Battle of White Plains.

In its series of supplements recounting "The Battle Honors of the Services" The British Navy and Army Illustrated once in awhile says something about the British forces in the Revolutionary war. When it does, it is pretty sure to be inaccurate.

The cover of one issue of the "Battle Honors" has a spirited picture of Bragg's grenadiers winning the battle of White Plains, where they won the name of the "Slashers," because they threw away their flintlocks and carried an intrenchment with their short swords. The picture is entitled "The Slashers at the Battle of White Plains, 1775."

The battle of White Plains was fought, as a matter of fact, on Oct. 28, 1776. It is stated in the publication that Washington sent 8,000 men to occupy a hill above the ford of the "Brunx," and that this position was carried by the "Slashers" with their swords. It is also said that "soon after this turning movement General Washington, abandoning his stores, retired with his army toward Connecticut."

As a matter of fact the position referred to was held by 1,400 Americans under General McDougal and was carried by a British force of 4,000. One would think from reading the British version of the fight that the "Slashers" whipped the entire American army. There were other British regiments engaged in the work of carrying Chatterton hill, and it is unfair to them to give all the credit to the "Slashers."

Of what took place after the position was carried the version given by The Navy and Army Illustrated is deliberately misleading. The facts are that when the hill was carried General McDougal retired to Washington's camp with a loss of 80 prisoners and 100 killed and wounded. The British lost 229 killed and wounded. Howe did not dare to attack Washington, but sent for reinforcements, and on Nov. 5 moved his augmented army to Debbs' Ferry. Washington, being confronted by superior numbers, retired, not toward Connecticut, but across the Hudson to New Jersey on Nov. 9.

When a nation starts out to write its military history and distorts it in some particulars, it makes one doubt the truth of all. The truth about the battle of White Plains would redound just as much to the glory of the "Slashers" as does the perverted account published by the navy and army.—New York Press.

SHADOWING A FOOTBALLER.

The Scheme of a Team to Down a Successful Rival.

Several years ago a young athlete named D—— was conspicuous as a football player. He was a swift runner, a reliable drop kicker and an excellent all round player. He had proved such a tower of strength on his college eleven that rival teams feared him, and when rumors to the effect that he had received money for his services were circulated steps were eagerly taken by the football authorities of an opposing college to investigate his amateur status. If he had received money, as alleged, he was no longer an amateur and could be debarred from a place on the team.

Accordingly an emissary was dispatched, with the usual oppressive college secrecy, to the village of S—— where the suspected player resided when at home. The father of D—— was a well to do farmer, and the spy, passing as a book agent, experienced little difficulty in getting him to talk about his son.

"Famous?" he said, with no great show of enthusiasm. "Waal, I s'pose the boy is famous, but there isn't much in this football."

"But a fellow as famous as he is must get a good salary," the spy suggested, with a craftily assumed air of innocence.

"Nope," said the farmer. "Football players don't get a salary."

"That's odd," continued the spy. "I heard he was kicking for cash."

"Waal, that's right. He is," the father slowly admitted.

The spy was secretly overjoyed. He chuckled inwardly and fairly hugged himself with delight. In fancy the rival team was already deprived of her strongest player.

"So he's kicking for cash at college, is he?" he echoed.

"Yes," the farmer said wearily, "yes, he's kickin for more cash 'most every letter I get."

And then the disgusted spy kicked himself, metaphorically speaking, all the way back to college.—Harper's Bazar.

European Travel.

Children are taken abroad so young that before they have reached an age to appreciate what they see Europe has become a twice told tale to them. So true is this that a recipe for making your children good Americans is to bring them up abroad. Once they get back here, it is hard to entice them away again. With each improvement in the speed of our steamers vanishes something of the glamour of Europe, and the crowds that yearly rush across see less and appreciate less in a lifetime than our parents did in their one tour abroad.—Exchange.

Life in a Nutshell.

There are 3,064 languages in the world, and its inhabitants profess more than 1,000 religions.

The number of men is about equal to the number of women.

The average of life is about thirty-three years.

To 1,000 persons, only one reaches 100 years of life; to every 100 six reach the age of sixty-five, and not more than one in 600 lives to eighty years.

There are on the earth 1,000,000,000 inhabitants. Of these, 33,033,033 die every year, 91,824 every day, 3,730 every hour, sixty every minute, or one every second.

The married are longer-lived than the single and, above all those who observe a sober and industrious conduct.

Tall men live longer than short ones.

Women have more chances of life in their favor, previous to fifty years, than men have, but fewer afterward.

The number of marriages is in the proportion of 75 to 1,000 individuals.

Those born in the spring are generally of a more robust constitution than others.

Births are more frequent by night than by day, also deaths.

The number of men capable of carrying arms is calculated at one-fourth of the population.

WOMAN AND MUSIC.

The Two Are Bound Together In All Up to Date Education.

If a few years ago music had been declared to be as necessary in education as in mathematics or physics, the statement would have been received with amazement, if not with derision. The early aim of common school education was the making of practical men and women, and by "practical" was meant a preparation for the ordinary breadwinning affairs of life. Not that the moral side of education was ignored, but it was believed that the three R's and the hard and fast sciences, together with a general indorsement of religion and good ethics, were sufficient factors in character building and all that the schools should supply. Music, literature and drawing, if they found any place in the curriculum, were merely incidents that were not sufficiently practical to be requisites, nor was their more subtle and potent influence on the character and the higher development of the mind appreciated or perceived. Ornamental they might be, but they were not believed to be useful. Only a visionary sentimentality considered these arts as necessary to public education. Today art, in a broad sense, occupies a far higher place in the regard of every educator of note and of every man who is alive to the interests of well balanced and symmetrical education. In fact, the art influence in education is coming to be adequately appreciated, and art is no longer considered an incident in life, but rather the reality itself.

We are not attempting to detract from the nobility of labor. That education which founds industries, which adds to the comfort of mankind, which makes possible the cultivation of the arts, we must recognize, uphold and admire, but that education which tells us we are not altogether commercial machines; that to love something for its innate beauty and not for its pecuniary worth is wise and good; that by loving harmony of sound we may come to love harmony of deeds; that tones which speak to us of others' sorrows, making us forget self, may be of more worth in the end than much positive science—such education we are beginning to revere and to see in it the most practical method of developing sweeter women and nobler men.—Philadelphia Times.

CIVIL SERVICE FRAUD.

Republicans Indorsed It and Are Now Parceling Out Jobs.

By its refusal to assist the administration in freeing itself from embarrassments the Democratic minority has called conspicuous attention to the hypocrisy which was alone responsible for the indorsement of civil service reform at the last Republican national convention. The rank and file of the Republican party, representing in part the people of the United States, has never been in thorough sympathy with the civil service idea. The Democratic party repudiated it when it threw Cleveland overboard.

The civil service idea has never been strong save in Mugwump localities. The life tenure of office is antagonistic to the Democratic doctrine. It has no place in a republican form of government. A majority of delegates in the Republican national convention appreciated this when the hypocritical plank was inserted in their national platform. In order to free the administration from embarrassment and give the commercial boss of their party an opportunity to redeem in part the pledges made when offices were promised for Republican support the Democrats are now asked to assist in so amending the law that the hungry patriots may be fed.

If the Republican party had the courage of its convictions, it would repeal the entire law. The only way in which its repeal can be secured is to carry out its provisions to the letter, as far as the Democratic minority can force that to be done, and make it as odious to the party as its undemocratic ideas deserve to be. The Republican party in convention assembled, declaring for civil service reform and the Republican bosses, from Hanna to Kerens and from Quay to Leland, parceling out the jobs to those who assisted in corrupting delegates at St. Louis, is a spectacle which the Democratic minority is determined the public shall not soon forget.—Kansas City Times.

Our Progressive Women.

An exchange coins a new word most aptly after this fashion.

"Americanitis is a new trouble, or, rather, an old trouble, that is daily growing so much worse and so much more common that it is distinctly noticeable. Americanitis has been defined by somebody who has studied the ailment thus: The desire to 'get on.'

"'It is Americanitis that prompts the farmer's daughter to get a college education and make opportunities for herself better than those her mother and father had before her,' said the man lately who has been making a study of the 'get on' epidemic that is creating a marked characteristic.

"Of course there are times when the spirit of Americanitis is a good thing. Then it is that we can respect it, and no one will find fault with it in this case, not even our English sisters, who, of all people, have most to say that is not complimentary or encouraging to the hurry and push instincts of American women generally."

COST OF SABLES.

How the Price Advances After the Skin Leaves Siberia.

Up in the great watershed dividing Siberia and Mongolia lives a peculiar race of people, half Chinese, half Tibetans. Few Europeans have ever seen them. In fact, with the exception of one or two enterprising explorers or geographical enthusiasts who have crossed the Altai range, European eyes have never gazed upon the aboriginal Syots of northern Mongolia.

Sable hunting in the Siberian mountains and northern Mongolia is confined almost exclusively to the Syots and other native races, and it would surprise a good many fur dealers in England to know the prices which are paid by the Siberian traders to these poor aborigines for the skins they collect.

The Siberian trader, knowing his market, makes periodical journeys into Mongolia. It is safe to say he does not take a kopek of money with him, but he drags behind him a well stuffed caravan loaded with tea, tobacco, gunpowder and shot, strings of beads for the women and roughly made moccasins for the men. In due course he will come across a Syot encampment.

The trader sits on his wagon and barters cheerfully. With the eye of a connoisseur and with fingers rendered deft by long practice he sees and feels the smooth, warm skins of the little animals.

This small black one—well, a two ounce packet of tobacco is enough for that; that large black one—a handful of shot and an equal quantity of gunpowder; a packet of tea for a lovely skin with a long black stripe down the center; this one, a fine skin, but a little bit hurt by the shot entering the back—well, say a string of beads for that.

In their original undressed state it is safe to say that the skins do not cost the Siberian trader much more than a few pence each on the average. As the poor sable travels farther westward, however, he gets dearer and dearer. In Tomsk one can buy a very good sable for something like 5 or 6 rubles, about 13s. In Omsk few are sold under 10 rubles—£1 1s. In Moscow 100 per cent goes on. In St. Petersburg no one except the middle class or a functionary would wear a sable under £5. In Paris and London a real Siberian sable skin will fetch anything up to £20, but the imitation sables of the present day have done much to depreciate this wonderful trade.—London Mail.

HIS HIGH PRICED EYE.

How a Clever Bunko Game Was Played on a Son of Sunny Italy.

A well planned scheme was worked on a down town Italian confectioner the other night whereby he lost $50. About 2 p. m. a man who had one good eye and one glass eye came wandering along the street and stopped at this Italian's fruit stand. He stooped over to look at some of the fruit, when unexpectedly his glass eye fell from its socket down among the bananas and oranges.

The pretending purchaser at once began a diligent search for the missing glass eye. With both hands he clawed into the fruit, scattering it in all directions. The Italian came forward and told the stranger to stop. The one eyed man explained that his glass eye had dropped down there and that he wanted to get it.

The Italian became enraged and told the stranger to come around in the evening and he could get the other eye. The man explained he was a stranger and would not be here in the evening, but if he (the Italian) found the eye he should bring it to his hotel, where $100 would be paid to him.

An hour later another man came along, pretended to make a purchase, and while fingering around in the fruit suddenly espied the wonderful glass eye. The man from Italy made a grab for it, but was too late, as his would be customer already had it. Both claimed the eye, and a quarrel ensued. The Italian patched matters up by giving the stranger $50 for the eye, thinking he would get $100 upon returning it and he would have $50 clear.

He went to the hotel with the eye to get the $100 that he was told awaited him there. He found that no such man had been there and no $100 was left there for him. He then saw how he was worked and notified the police.—Pittsburg Commercial-Gazette.

Sheep Ticks.

Every one who has sheep knows the tick, the worst pest of this animal, that does serious harm to the young lambs without suspicion of the cause to the shepherd. This reddish brown creature is a wingless fly and a very greedy bloodsucker. A dozen of them on a lamb will quickly suck the little one dry. It is to be looked after at the time of shearing, when these insects go for shelter to the lambs. It is found mostly where the animal cannot reach it—on its head, buried in the skin, sucking the blood.

Its skin is tough, and it is not easily crushed with less than a blow of a hammer. In small flocks it is not much of a job to go through, with a pair of small scissors to cut the ticks in two, but where the flock is over a score it will be necessary to dip the lambs.—Exchange.

The Count's Mistake.

"So Gwendolyn is not to marry the count after all?"

"No, poor man. He tried to tell her that her singing was something that made one glad to live, and his pronunciation was so broken that she thought he said it made one glad to leave, and then she requested him to leave."—Indianapolis Journal.

Testing Him.

Bagley—Do you recollect that $5 I let you have about a year ago?

Brace—Perfectly.

Bagley—That's good. I see your memory is all right. How's your eyesight?—Harlem Life.

NEW FLYING MACHINES.

American Eagles as the Motive Power For One and Storks For the Others.

Inventors of flying machines have broken out afresh. Two of them consider their inventions as suitable for war purposes and have sent descriptions to the ordnance department of the army, with the information that the government can get the right to use them if it will pay enough.

Both inventors propose to use birds for the motive power of their contrivances. One of them may have obtained a suggestion from that seasonable poem "The Visit of St. Nicholas," which contains the line, "More rapid than eagles his coursers they came," for his invention is based on an arrangement for guiding a pair of the birds of freedom from a self leveling chair, in which the operator sits. The eagles convey the operator over the camp of an enemy, and the chair is so well balanced, like the cars of the Ferris wheel, that he can observe everything beneath without difficulty.

The other inventor uses an ordinary balloon, but he overcomes perverse air currents by having a dozen storks carry it in the direction he wishes to go. The driver sits in the basket and guides the feathered steeds. A drawing submitted with the description shows the storks harnessed six abreast.—Exchange.

Long Eared.

"You ought to have your ears boxed," said Miss Sharpleigh to a young freshman who had just stolen a kiss.

"Well," he asked, "why don't you do it?"

"I would," she replied, "if I had a box large enough."—Chicago News.

With the exception of birds, men's legs are longer in proportion to their body than those of any other animal. The human foot is broader and stronger than the foot of any other animal, so that man alone can stand upon one foot.

Relatively to population no European country can vie with New England in respect of manufactures.

Ribbon Sashes.

Ribbon sashes are worn in various widths. From 3 inches to 10 or 12 describes the limit each way. The excessively wide styles once popular are not used this winter, and the very broadest sashes are of transparent texture. A sash that is not too wide and that falls to the skirt hem is as a rule far more becoming to the wearer than the one that is half length. Of course a very wide sash cannot be tied at the side. An innovation that has little to recommend it is a half length ribbon sash tied in this position.

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